

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the first paragraph of page 6 of the text as follows:

--The following is a description of the method of producing hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate using the aforementioned producing apparatus (hereinafter called producing method). The producing method can be any method, provided hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate is produced by reacting (meth)acrylic acid and alkylene oxide in the reaction vessel 2. A general method is given as an example as follows. That is, the ball valve 5, which is placed at the bottom of the reaction vessel 3, is fully closed and ~~(meth) acrylie~~ (meth)acrylic acid, alkylene oxide in excess of the ~~(meth) acrylie~~ (meth)acrylic acid, and a catalyst are prepared in the reaction vessel 2. ~~Then~~ Next they are reacted under elevated pressure to obtain a reaction mixture including hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate, and remaining alkylene oxide in the reaction mixture is subsequently removed by vacuum deaeration treatment. Subsequently, the ball valve 5 is fully opened and the reaction mixture is transferred to a purification apparatus and purified by distillation and so on to obtain high-~~purified~~ purity hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate. After discharging, the ball valve is fully closed again in preparation for the next reaction. --

Please amend the second paragraph of page 6 of the text as follows:

-- There are no particular restrictions on the hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate produced by the producing apparatus and the producing method and, for example, hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate includes ~~hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate~~ hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate, ~~hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate~~ hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate, and the like. It is especially preferable that ~~hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate~~ hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylate be the ~~hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate~~ hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate

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in the present invention, because the amount of production thereof is usually large and the effects of the present invention are of great use in this case. --